

Message Text

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51

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ADP-00 EB-11 COME-00 INT-08

SCEM-02 AID-20 PM-07 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01 STR-08

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 USIA-15 PRS-01

SEC-03 JUSE-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 RSR-01 /165 W

----- 081527

R 281140Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3255

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: NERG, IR

SUBJECT: IRAN'S DOWNSTREAM OIL INTEREST IN U.S.

REF: STATE 148419

1. EMBOFF CALLED MORNING JULY 28 ON MINA OF NIOC TO DISCUSS ASHLAND SITUATION. NIOC, AND APPARENTLY GOI IN GENERAL, AS SURPRISED AS USG AND ASHLAND BY SHAH'S ANNOUNCEMENT. MINA COULD ONLY SPECULATE THAT SHAH HAD MADE ANNOUNCEMENT AS STRIKING WAY INDICATE IRANIAN INTEREST IN EVER CLOSER TIES OF ALL KINDS WITH U.S.

2. MINA SAID THAT ATKINS OF ASHLAND HAD REQUESTED PERMISSION OF NIOC REPRESENTATIVE IN U.S. TO ISSUE STATEMENT AS REPORTED REFTTEL. MINA PERSONALLY AUTHORIZED NIOC REPRESENTATIVE GIVE SUCH PERMISSION EXCEPT FOR SENTENCE IN ORIGINAL STATEMENT SAYING THAT NIOC WOULD EVENTUALLY PROVIDE 350,000 B/D. PERMISSION
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REFUSED FOR THIS BECAUSE MOU DOES NOT INCLUDE SUCH COMMITMENT

BY NIOC.

3. EMBOFF EXPLAINED TO MINA THAT ASHLAND EXECUTIVES' URGENCY IN RELEASING STATEMENT OF THEIR OWN PROBABLY PROMPTED BY POSSIBILITY OF SEVERE PROBLEMS WITH SEC AND JUSTICE DEPARTMENT CREATED BY SHAH'S ANNOUNCEMENT AND ASKED IF NIOC WOULD BE PREPARED TO MAKE STATEMENT OF ITS OWN CONFIRMING ASHLAND STATEMENT. MINA REPLIED THAT HE WELL AWARE THESE PROBLEMS COULD ARISE AND NIOC WOULD BE PREPARED ISSUE STATEMENT IF IT WOULD HELP.
HECK

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: elyme
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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